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PATENT APPLICATION  
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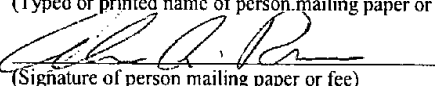
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Valery POULBOT )  
Application No.: 09/913,744 )  
Filed: August 16, 2001 )  
For: RUNNING TREAD FOR TIRE )  
AND TIRE COMPRISING SAME : June 4, 2004

Examiner: Steven D. Maki  
Group Art Unit: 1714

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

A. Introductory Comments

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on December 8, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests an extension of time of three months, up through June 8, 2004, and include the required fee.

Please amend the specification and abstract as indicated in the substitute specification and abstract attached hereto. Applicant has substituted the specification and

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abstract to provide a better translation of the priority document, which includes terms more commonly used in the art. However, the originally filed specification is accurate.

Please amend claims 1-13. The amended claims find support in the originally filed application and claims, as explained further in the Remarks section below. In accordance with the revised amendment format, a complete listing of all claims follows; this listing replaces all earlier amendments and listings of the claims.

Applicant makes the present amendments only in order to put the claims in better conformity with the language of the substitute specification attached hereto, to correct improper multiple dependent claim language and to clarify the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant reserves the right to file applications directed to matter disclosed in the original application.